

THE DAILY MISSOURIAN

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KEEPING UP PAYING

Every city of medium population has its problems in the maintenance of street paving. One is the problem of how the streets are to be kept in repair after they are laid. Columbia is not unlike other cities in this respect.

The street paving in this city is paid for by the property owners in front of whose property it runs. This is the usual plan throughout the state. But from this rises the question of responsibility for its upkeep. The city grants permission to public utilities companies to tear up the streets, providing the companies replace them. The replacing is carelessly done, and the streets are in a bad condition.

Here is the way some cities have solved the problem. The street department has enough work without maintaining paving, but the property owners must be protected. When contracts are let by the city for the paving of any street, an upkeep clause is inserted in which the contractor agrees to keep the paving in good condition for a term of years. In this way the city is assured of good streets; the contractor puts the best of material in it to save the cost of maintenance, and the property owners are thus far protected.

This is a measure which the City Council of Columbia should adopt. Many streets in Columbia are now in need of repair, but who knows where to place the responsibility? Why is it not possible for the city to make the contractor responsible by placing in each contract a maintenance clause?

THE BAGDAD RAILROAD

Emperor William II visited the Sultan of Turkey in 1898, just twenty-three years after the first branch of the Bagdad Railroad was built. He proclaimed himself the only friend of Abdul in Europe and obtained at that time the concession to build the Bagdad railroad from the Bosphorus to the Persian Gulf, which is the back door of India.

A German syndicate was organized, and it lost no time in starting the building of this road. The Kaiser saw in Asia Minor a chance for a new empire, and Germany feared that she could no longer depend on the seas to feed herself because of antagonistic alliances among the great powers.

The Bagdad Railroad could supply Germany with food products, copper, petroleum and many other raw materials. This vision of Germany, however, was foreseen by Great Britain, which at once proceeded to stop the ambitions. Great Britain in her diplomacy killed two birds with one shot, since she was able to cut off Russia from having a seaport and also cut off Germany from reaching the Persian Gulf by the way of Bagdad.

Great Britain entered in negotiations with Russia, by which Persia was divided in three parts—the north under the control of Russia, the middle part a buffer state and the south under the protectorate of Great Britain. This agreement with Russia established the foundation for the existence of the Anglo-Russian alliance, which has proved invaluable to Great Britain.

TIME FOR A STEP FORWARD

Boone County needs a new jail. The present building is inadequate for the needs of a progressive community. It is a "before-the-war" relic and a curiosity of former days rather than a modern institution.

Sixty years ago the Boone County jail was built, a formidable structure of heavy stone blocks. A few years later the need of exercise for the prisoners was realized, and a wooden stockade was constructed where they could work. Thirty-six years ago the stockade was torn down and a brick

addition constructed. The cells were moved into this room, and the sheriff and his family lodged in the stone building.

The prisoners are now provided with larger apartments but it was not until several years later that the insanitary condition of the place was relieved by the installation of a sewage system and running water.

Since that time, twenty-five years ago, the condition of the Boone County jail has remained practically unchanged. The efforts of the sheriff and his family to keep the old building in a state of repair and sanitation are with little result. The two-foot walls of the historic stronghold still stand. The slilt-like windows, six inches wide, remain unobscured, admitting but little light and air. In winter the room is heated by two stoves.

Sunshine and air in pioneer days often had to be placed secondary to security of prisoners, but happily modern jail construction makes both ideals possible. The time for the erection of a new Boone County jail has come.

WHAT THE FIGURES SAY

Spokane went dry. Here are the figures from January 1 to May 1, 1916, of the prohibition year compared with those of January 1 to May 1, 1915, of the wet regime. Is there need of any stronger argument?

Before prohibition 501 "drunks" were arrested; after prohibition—159. Before prohibition—441 vagrants; after—128. Before—256 disorderlies; after—89. Before—1070 charity cases; after—700. Before—161 new poor-farm inmates; after—116.

Economic conditions show an improvement. Before prohibition \$344,000 worth of building permits were issued; after—\$548,000. Bank deposits amounted to \$156,000,000 in the wet administration. The figures for the prohibition government show \$188,000,000.

On the whole, says an article in the Survey, unemployment, poverty and destitution were less; divorces were fewer; collections better; dives were closed; white slavery was diminished, and hold-ups dwindled. The merchants report big gains.

That these figures are due to the war is shown by the fact that the other western cities show no such improvement.

What is the verdict?

The Open Column

A public forum for the discussion of things worth-while. Articles should be short and signed by the writer, as proof to the editor of good faith. Signatures will not necessarily be published.

Friends of Yesterday

Editor the Missouriian: Where is the freshman who once greeted every wearer of the "pancake" cap with a hearty hand shake, who exchanged opinions on the campus with members of his class whom he had never seen before and who formed lifelong friendships with other freshmen to whom he had "not even been formally introduced"?

Where is the freshman with the unselfish "social mind" who held the welfare of his class as his own, who made the troubles of his classmates his troubles and who united with them in their common interest?

Where are they who, flocking together at the whack of the sophomore paddle, united in a common cause and there formed friendships which lasted throughout their school career and perhaps through life?

They are gone with the sophomore paddle, perhaps never to return. Now there has come a listless, rather bored

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individual, who gazes with a stony stare at every classmate to whom he has not been formally introduced. He has little in common with his classmates and receives little attention himself. He is a lost sheep straying aimlessly about the campus.

The sophomore wolves might scare these sheep into an organized flock, but those are wolves extinct. Freshmen are not permitted to form an organization themselves until the end of the first semester. No guiding shepherd is provided for them; so they continue to roam the campus, each to himself, with no thought for the others.

Let's do something for the freshmen. Encourage them to organize, if only to secure a common interest, and promote that now rare friendship which continues through the four years at Missouri. W. H. W.

The New Books

"The Brook Kerith."

In "The Brook Kerith," George Moore, always a wizard with words, has painted a charming picture in a most beautiful fashion. Starting out with the assumption that Christ did not die on the cross he builds up a narrative as fascinating as it is unusual, the daring originality of which will astound the reader. Never has he written with such sustained power,

intensity and nobility of phrasing. "The Brook Kerith" is one of the year's great novels, if not the greatest novel of the year.

(The Macmillan Company, New York; cloth, 486 pages; \$1.50.)

Miss Bell Talks to Mothers' Club. The Mothers' Club of the Grant School met yesterday afternoon and discussed plans for the year. Miss Bab Bell of the extension work in home economics lectured on "The School Lunch and How to Prepare It." Temperance was discussed by Mrs. Etta F. Winter. Musical selections and readings were given by the school pupils.

Girl Born to Mr. and Mrs. Bewick. Mr. and Mrs. Stephen P. Bewick, 1607 Cauthorn avenue, announce the birth of a nine-pound baby girl, Margaret.

BANDITS LOOT OKLAHOMA BANK

Escape Is Made With \$6,000—Search Spreads to Four States.

By United Press
CENTRALIA, Okla., Oct. 19.—Search for the four bandits who held up the officers and robbed the First National Bank of this city yesterday has spread to four states today. Centralia is in the northeastern part of the state, and officers in Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas joined in the hunt.

Three of the bandits entered the bank, while a fourth sat in an automobile outside. The three forced four officials and two customers to lie face downward on the floor while the vault was rifled of \$6,000. The victims then were locked in the vault, while the bandits made their getaway in the automobile.

Harvest Queen Candidate Withdraws.

Miss Margaret Mumford has withdrawn her nomination for harvest queen of the Barwarming this year. The remaining candidates are Misses Mamie Holt, Louise Harris and Mary Percival.

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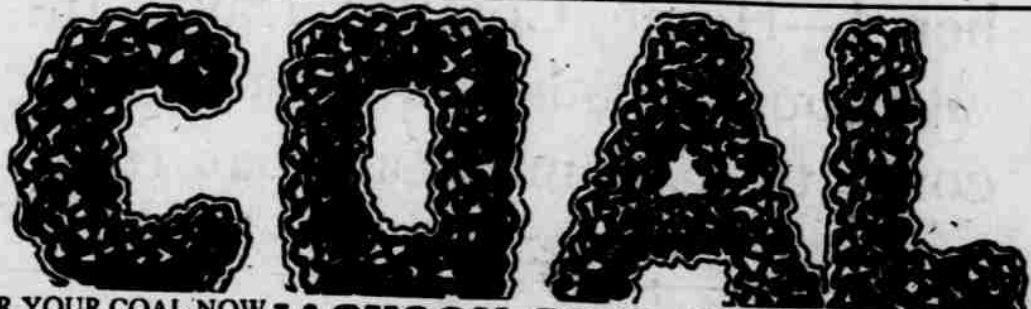
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